

# **NEBRASKA COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

OPERATING INSTRUCTION  
NUMBER 38

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## **STEP-DOWN FUNDING POLICY FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANTS**

**PURPOSE:** To prescribe a step-down funding policy for juvenile justice grants.

1. **SCOPE:** Applicable to members of the Juvenile Services Grant Committee, the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice and Crime Commission members and staff.
2. **GENERAL:** The Juvenile Services Grant Committee and the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice utilize federal and state grant dollars for programs which improve and enhance services to juveniles. Community support and commitment for the juvenile programs are needed. The programs for which funding is recommended are to reflect how the applicant will sustain the program should funding from the juvenile grants cease. To help ensure the juvenile program continues operation through commitment of local efforts, the amount of grant funds awarded for continuation programs may be subject to a funding step-down policy.
3. **FUNDING STEP-DOWN PROCESS:** The funding step-down process is as follows:
  - Level 1: To provide sufficient time for a new program to become stable, a project may be funded at the same level of funding for not more than two (2) years.
  - Level 2: Continuation projects requesting funding for a third year will be reduced at 25% of the awarded amount in Level 1, providing there are sufficient funds available.
  - Level 3: Continuation projects requesting funding for a fourth year will be reduced 50% of the awarded amount in Level 1, providing there are sufficient funds available.
  - Level 4: Continuation projects requesting funding for a fifth year will be reduced 75% of the awarded amount in Level 1, providing there are sufficient funds available.

4. **WAVIER OF STEP-DOWN POLICY:** Circumstances may arise which validate the funding of a program at the same or greater amount than the step-down policy allows. In such cases, the Committees may grant a waiver to the step-down policy.

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Distribution:  
NE Crime Commission Members and Staff  
NE Coalition for Juvenile Justice Members  
NE Juvenile Services Grant Committee Members